The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

LOCAL NOTICES.

All Headache

Vanishes at the application of Wright's Pain Paint. Try it.

New Book Store.

S. A. Neale & Co. will shortly open their new store, No. 75 Fifth avenue, with an entire fresh stock of theological, religious, devotional, miscellaneous and Sunday School Books and Stationery in all the branches. Store now being refitted. They expect to be ready for business about the middle of March.

To All Whom It May Concern.

And we think it concerns a great many, and more particularly invalids. First, that their physical powers may be maintained unbroken, and secondly, that they may take advantage of medicines in a suitable manner. To all such, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters are confidently recommended. They are sold by druggists everywhere, and at wholesale from Logan, Fleming, & Hartley, 66 Wood street. We speak from experience when we say that they are the best and largest, freshest and most genuine stock in the city, and cannot be undersold.

Extinction of Bugs.

Plain print bugs under the care of Prof. R. T. Tarring, of Boston, Mass., are extinct. Their remains already done. No future lives need be spared.

Currency Envelopes

Now ready; also, a large assortment of other grades of Mourning Envelopes, Drug Stamps, Wood street, corner Diamond, near Fifth avenue.

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

WASHINGTON.

The Postal Telegraph System.

Brief Statement of Its Provisions—Charges Reduced—Transcontinental Line Bill Postponed till After Grant's Inauguration—The Sufrage Amendment—Naturalization—The Consideration of the Alabama Treaty—Senator Wade Don't Wish a Cabinet Portfolio.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 22, 1869.

SENATE.

A memorial of Republican Senators was held this morning at 11 o'clock, to consider the question of the repeal of the fourth-of-July act. Messrs. Edmunds and Conkling spoke against the repeal. Mr. Grimes (I am on the authority of the morning papers, and Mr. Conkling) favored its suspension for four years. Messrs. Chandler, Morton and Ramsey were also present. Mr. Sherman did not speak, and made no effort to procure it to be considered, and intimated that they were not ready to act. Mr. Wilson was also present, but declined to vote. It is probable that most of those who favored the postponement are against the repeal of the internal office taxes, but think that it is best to save the repeal till after the inauguration, when the Senate will be relieved from the pressure of appointments. The friends of repeal are, however, doing in regard to the action of the caucus the Finance committee, and some of the Senators say they will not make an effort to bring the Senate to a caucus vote this session on the question of repeal.

The Constitutional Amendment.

The caucus has had some discussion about the pending constitutional amendment, and the prevailing sentiment seemed to be that it is best to leave the matter in the committee of conference, with a view to enforcing the report entirely out of the question.

Naturalization.

Some effort was made to get an expression of opinion on Pomeroy's naturalization bill, but it was not successful, the caucus having decided that seven days' time from the Judiciary Committee must be put through.

Shipment of Imported Goods.

The Senate spent a good deal of time on the bill which provides for the shipment of imported goods in original packages from New York to the interior cities, Chicago and St. Louis, and payment of duties on delivery. There was a strong opposition to the principle of the measure, and some to its details, and no conclusion was reached.

The Bank Bill.

The Conkling amendment to the bank bill was defeated in the Senate at one evening session by an hour, and then disagreed to. Buckalew, of Pennsylvania, in the last session, will go with the Democrats.

The Copper Tariff Vote

Split into the House by the ratifiers as almost exactly along the line of the bill. The Democrats voted solidly against it, and the Republicans from the mining districts of the West generally for it, with a few exceptions. The Democrats from the mining districts voted with their party.

Consul Shaw.

Judge Ellis, of the District Court here, has granted that U. C. Shaw's bonds and securities against him in the distribution of the property offered by the bankrupt of the late firm of Shaw, Hall & Co., be declared forfeited, because he has failed to appear in the matter, as required by the order of the court.

John C. Cockburnlips,

Who has been in Baltimore for some days, appeared before the Committee on Foreign Affairs this morning, and solicited any attention to any views in opposition to the annexation of Santo Domingo.

To be Reduced.

The new Methodist Episcopal Church South, now in the course of erection on Fifth avenue, between Wood and Smithfield streets, will be finished next Sunday. It has been two years in building, and is one of the finest churches in the city.

The Naval Appropriation.

The House this evening nominated the Senate amendments to the Naval Appropriation bill. The minor ones were agreed to, and will go to the conference committee.

The "Crossing Express"

Newspaper of this city has again changed hands, and will hereafter be independent, it says, in politics.

The Alabama Treaty.

It was not deemed advisable to ask an executive session this evening for consideration of the Alabama treaty, several Senators think the vote to be cast upon it is the most important one in the Senate for many years. Mr. Sumner would probably be willing to forego that consideration upon a day in the Judicial Committee will be some advice. No written report was made by the Foreign Relations Committee, but Mr. Sumner is prepared to state the reasons which induced him to oppose the ratification of the treaty. There is considerable interest to hear what he may say, for everybody concedes that his position and knowledge will give immense weight and importance to his views. If he speaks, the Senate will probably take the adversary stage to oppose the imposition of secrecy from his remarks, so that they may be given to the public.

Kansas Indian Lands.

The luxury for the sale of the lands of the Kansas Indians in the Neosho Valley Railroad Company has been almost ready for consideration by the Senate. The average price is said to be less one dollar, and one of the parties most largely interested is a near relation of a Senator.

Senator Wade out of the Cabinet.

Mr. Wade has received a number of friends and is to urge his claims to any cabinet position, giving as a reason that even if there was a chance of his appointment he does not feel the understanding at his age such labor as would be necessary in any of the departments.

Mr. Wade has Changed.

As some misunderstanding seems to exist in the minds of great numbers under the flag of telegraph opinion, the following statement of the provisions will prove of interest. It proposes to establish a postal telegraph system, connecting all the principal cities of the country into the mails and cover the fundamental principle of the following classes of messages: First, for single messages of not more than ten words, to be transmitted by day, the average daily number of ten hundred words, when transmitted by day and three by night. It is expected that the county rate will be fixed at two dollars and a half for the messages, and three dollars and seventy-five cents for the message. Second, for messages from one county to another in the same State, the rate to be fixed at three dollars and seventy-five cents for the message. Third, for messages from one State to another, the rate to be fixed at five dollars and seventy-five cents for the message. Fourth, for messages from the remote states provided to pass between Washington and the large cities with congress is in session, to the rate of ten dollars for the message. Fifth, for messages from New York to all sections of the country, and to and from the capital of the several districts and of more points during the session of congress, to the rate of twenty-five dollars for single messages from New York, Cincinnati, Chicago and Boston and ten dollars or more added to Washington as a fixed rental on the cost and annual depreciation of the line. From and after the first day of July, 1869, the rates fixed at the limited dollars for each and every one and to profit as the case may be, one to the next, the corporate can be fixed by the postmaster general of the United States, and the compensation of each of the officers, and the postage of the mails, and the compensation of the officers, and the postage of the mails, and the compensation of the officers, and the postage of the mails, and the compensation

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The special committee of the State Senate, to whom was referred the subject, have reported a new register bill, which, it is said, will obviate objections heretofore interposed by the Supreme Court, and such a register is provided for that no person shall be entitled to vote at any spring election unless his name shall be on the list of registered electors at that time; and he shall be registered on the second Tuesday of October.

We copy to-day the Message of Governor Lieutenant Governor, of New York, upon the foreign representation undertook to cast, as Chief of the Supreme Naval Bureau, but has selected Gen. Pratt, Fenton, formerly of the United States Army, General-in-Chief of the Japanese military. The appointment is very distasteful to the foreign representatives, but their objections were met with the reply that Japan did not need their advice.

The London *Times* discussing the Irish question says: "We have four millions to ameliorate the condition of some other." New York and various other writers inform us of a curious which still prevails in some districts of Ireland where a theft or a murder is deemed fit for offering to replace the stolen article. When life has been taken the murderer offers to right the wrong of his "foe." This voluntary atonement, termed "restitution," seems to have awakened the admiration of the leading English journals. But they improve on the Irish method by asking to be accept the will for the deed. This is hardly in keeping with their conservative years ago. They then went "to the verge" of stealing from and making war upon an innocent animal dog. Perhaps, however, the new dispensation permits them to condemn our "national humbug" by proxy.

One branch of the Illinois Legislature has passed a bill practically repealing the law of thirty years ago, declaring capital punishment. In recording votes on the question, the *Journal* says:

> "During the debate on the bill Mr. Woodson, of Jersey, read from the passage of the Bible which declares that 'whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed.' Mr. Woodson argued from this that the law of capital punishment was therefore in accordance with the Bible."

We would like to know if crime is in general have not increased in Illinois in the time mentioned, and have of the severest description been in force all the while. Wherever a fair test has been had, there has been no increase of crime as the result of abolishing capital punishment. If the Illinois Legislature hopeful to return to hanging to repress murders, what does it propose to do in view of the frightful increase there of highway robberies, forgeries, arson, rape, etc.? If we are not mistaken, the latter class of crimes have increased in the greatest ratio, and we think it will be found that in that State there has been an increase of murders because there has been no hanging.

A SOUND BASIS.

The North American Indians had a theory of the creation differing somewhat from that elaborated by Cuvier, Lyell and modern geologists. In one thing, however, they believed the cardinal common to human nature. The Creator, by causing man, employed entirely different material for the white, red and black man. The material put into the red man was a little better than that employed in the creation of the others. The same theory, different only in application, was taught by the philosophers in Central Africa. During the last century this theory was promulgated by the learned citizens of Great Britain, who went a step further, and drew a broad line of demarcation between a Frenchman, an Irishman and an Englishman, forgetting that the two first were offshoots from the same stalk, and that those they placed first themselves a thousand years before were really last in point of intelligence. Not satisfied with this, they added the Americans to the list of inferior peoples. During the seventeenth century we have admitted the claims of consanguinity in their own peculiar way but the moment the war ended the Americans were granted into the position of an inferior people. English pamphlets, English books and English newspapers teemed with the grossest calumnies against the Americans, anything but complimentary. American manners, customs and sentiments furnish of never failing material to British authors, who habitually sneered at everything American, and American diplomats were compelled to cool their ardor in the ante-chambers of the British Premier. It seems, however, that all at once British sentiment has changed. The stereotyped theory of the creation has failed to accomplish the object for which it was invented. Something modified more in accordance with a knowledge of the facts. Either the rulers of Great Britain have fitted themselves for some fierce out of the busy gallery they seem to have occupied, and have thus lost control to measure their relative position with the rest of the world, or they have descended from the mountain heights in the midst of us to discover what is passing on the level plain around them. The London Standard, high authority on the other side of the water, regrets the anticipated action of the United States Senate on the Alabama treaty, and intimates that the next overture must come from our Government. England has discharged her duty in the premises, and hereafter will meet only on terms of "absolute equality." Some other journals chime in in the same way.

Well, we can only hope that the coming administration will not take advantage of the last and greatest concession to accrue to the United States the opportunity heretofore claimed by Great Britain. We will be perfectly content with an "absolute equality." More than this we could not ask, less we would not accept. The history of the last fifty years, if we have read it aright, proves that this last extraordinary concession is not made a moment too soon.

Now that the people of England and the United States are beginning to understand each other clearly, there seems to be a prospect of an adjustment of the Alabama claims that will enlarge much more than is usually recorded on parchment. "Absolute equality" is an excellent basis to build on.

CALCUTTA JOURNALS.

It helps it is as well that the Chinese cannot read English, as much difficulty in comprehending the full meaning of the English text as in experiment in unraveling the quaint characters of the Chinese language. Else we imagine it would not be Heaven's own's powers to prove to his employees that the United States government is not addicted to meeting out long while meaning no offence. Imagine the emotions of the Emperor of the Chinese upon reading in a California journal the decision of the Supreme Court of that State, rendered in the case of a poor Chinaman who was robbed by a negro,—a decision which expressly declares that a yellow man has no rights which a black man of American birth is bound to respect. In other words, their wonderful intelligence, the majority of the Judges there in number decided that under the provisions of the Civil Rights act the negro was entitled to all the privileges of a white man, and that the yellow man was not. Here we have the solution of the secret which has long puzzled us, to wit, the prime cause of all the controversy, insults, outrages and barbarities perpetrated upon the poor Chinaman in California. These outrages are not inflicted by Americans alone. In the majority of instances the perpetrators are foreigners. We are led to believe that the majority of the opponents are Irish. A Chinaman's property is public stock. He may be subjected to another condition, to death itself, and yet the perpetrators escape the punishment in their crimes, simply because the law of California does not respect the testimony of a Chinaman. During the past year, we have not taken up a California paper that did not record some three hundred more than indictments and finding for murders. As all murders are his game for the Indian and contempt of location and men keeps. Boys get them, as it comes or they would a dog. The California press have performed their duty in pointing out the cruelty and injustice of the course pursued towards the poor people, but without avail. We cannot believe a word of comfort on the extraordinary decision rendered by the Supreme Bench of California. If this decision is to serve as a precedent, then the injustice which prevented a black man from testifying in the three States is permitted in California in another form; the disabilities are shifted from the shoulders of the God-man to be borne by the yellow man. This may be California justice, but it differs in no degree from the laws which operated against slaves in the good old days when Union and Union ones were at a heavy discount in Kentucky. We presume there is a power higher than the Supreme Court of California even, and that the law makers of that State will learn that a fair construction of the amended constitution of the United States will show that the disabilities which formerly oppressed the black man have not been shifted to other shoulders, but removed altogether.

Wound, Intoxication.

The New York Tribune says:

> The wine season, now about to close, has been unusually prolific in wounds and intoxication. Many of the wounds have been received in the streets, and the intoxication has been largely indulged in by persons who have been in the habit of drinking moderately. The wounds have been generally inflicted by the use of knives, and in many instances have been fatal. The

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

Monday Evening, February 22, 1869.

Trading has been strictly observed by the banks, banking firms and stock brokers as a holiday, quite the prevailed in bank parlors, offices and counting rooms generally. We have received our usual reports from the New York Stock Board, as their adjournment on Saturday over until Tuesday. It is somewhat the Wall street fortune that

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CITY MATTERS.

PITTSBURGH COUNCILS.

Regular Meeting Yesterday—Communications on the Subject of a Free Bridge—Report of the Committee on Corporate Limits of the Borough—Report of the Committee Appointed to Investigate the Affairs of the City Comptroller's Office—Bills Introduced and Passed—Resolutions Offered—Etc., Etc.

The Select and Common Councils of the city of Pittsburgh met in their respective chambers, city building, on Monday evening, February 22, 1869.

SELECT COUNCIL.

JAMES MCCLEAVY - - - - - President.
R. G. MCMILLEN, - - - - - - Clerk.

The Council was called to order at 7 o'clock P. M., and the following members answered to their names: Messrs. Bailey, Bell, Bingham, Bowers, Brown, Cassidy, Cochran, Dilworth, Dravo, Ferguson, Fleming, Fulton, Gallagher, Gilmore, Hamilton, Hare, Hays, Hemphill, Herron, Hogg, Holmes, Jones, Kirkpatrick, Lambert, Lawrence, Lee, Lyon, Marshall, McCleavy, McCord, McCurdy, McGrew, McMillen, Mellon, Morrison, Morrow, Mowry, Negley, Nimick, Phillips, Reed, Robinson, Rowand, Scully, Shaffer, Shinn, Smith, Stevenson, Stewart, Thompson, Wagner, Wainwright, Walker, Wallace, Wilson, Wood and President—40.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Mr. PHILLIPS presented a communication from the members and active members of the Pittsburgh Fire Department, asking for the immediate passage of the ordinance providing for the compromise of the claims of the members of the department for the payment of the amount withheld from their salaries by the late Councils, and also asking that the ordinance providing for the appointment of the officers and a portion of the members of the department be passed over the veto of the Mayor, if necessary. Referred to the Committee on Fire Department.

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Mr. BOWERS presented a communication from the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, stating that the Engine House now used by Engine Company No. 1 is not large enough to accommodate the apparatus of the company, and asking that the matter be referred to the Committee on Fire Department. Referred to the Committee on Fire Department.

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Mr. BOWERS presented a petition for the opening of Bond street, from the Monongahela river to the Ohio river